2/6/72

Mr. Sam Monk Zelden
National Bank of Commerce Bldg.
New Orleans, La.

Dear Monk,

Had I not almost lopped my left thumb off with a machete (what better proof that I'm not one of Che's boys?) shortly after I sent you the Department of Justice affidavits in the Garrison case, I'd have been hollering before this, "What the hell happened to them?"

If they didn't reach you, the receipt number is 989218, dated here January 5. If they did, you sure have the slowest xerox in the South! I am not in any special hurry to get them back. I just do not want them lost. And if anyone else wants copies, fine.

Since then I have also gotten, again from the Department of Justice in Washington, copies of the indictments. I remember some kind of fuss about their being "leaked" and that unsigned copies were let out. I do not know if this has legal significance or not. If it does, my copies are entirely unsigned, with even the signature of the foreman of the grand jury not only notwwritten in - it isn't even typed in. I still have them in the envelope in which they were sent me.

I do not know what is going on down there because I no longer get the N.O. papers. Someone did send me a clipping saying that Guy Johnson now represents Garrison. If the foregoing has any significance, will you please tell him for me? Typing still is not easy or comfortable, and I save the discomfort for writing, that is, my work. You should feel honored: I have been writing letters to big-shots without any capital letters. (What has been going on up here in my field, of which I am sure you have read, would defame a nut-house, it is that crazy. It makes what to me are the insanities down there look good by comparison. To over-simplify, all of a sudden with no need or demand, a urologist becomes an expert in forensic-pathology and radiology, gets to see what he does not understand, emerges with a prearranged deal to say what can't be so, for all the world as though the President's urine was a factor in the assassination or its investigation.)

Hope you are progressing with your book. Great idea. If I can help with it in any way after it is done, let me know and I will try. I know a few people in publishing. They do not think of me what they think, having no choice, of the subject with which I work. There should be more of this kind of work by more lawyers. Reform is so overdue. And unless it comes, I fear the land will burn. I like it too much to want to see that happen.

If you speak to Guy, please tell him that I did not return because it was impossible.

Best regards,

Harold Weisberg